

Idaho State Department of Education

IDAHO PRAXIS II ASSESSMENT HANDBOOK:
State Requirements and Guide to Implementation

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I. Rationale for Praxis II Requirement

This handbook is intended to be a working document. Every effort will be made to distribute appropriate updates and post them on the website (www.sde.state.id.us/certification). Please make changes as needed.

Please note that this is a “document in progress”. Implementation of the Praxis II assessment program is subject to state and federal regulations. Any adjustments in these regulations will be reflected in the implementation procedures.

As required by Title II of the Higher Education Act, Idaho teacher preparation programs must have in place a common measure to assess basic knowledge corresponding to areas of certification of all candidates seeking Idaho certification. A common pre-service measure also has implications for meeting the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act (Public Law 107-110 - 1/8/02) that are intended to ensure teacher preparation programs produce teachers who are highly qualified. The education deans of Idaho’s colleges/universities, the Professional Standards Commission (PSC), and other constituency groups determined that Praxis II assessments, published by the Educational Testing Service (ETS), would be recommended to the Idaho State Board of Education as that common measure.

II. Idaho State Board of Education Policy

- On **November 17, 2000**, the Idaho State Board of Education unanimously approved “the use of the Praxis II examination as an initial pre-service requirement for teacher certification” (SBOE official minutes).
- On **December 4, 2003**, the Idaho State Board of Education approved qualifying scores for required Praxis II assessments (Section IV) based on the mean of the national data from 2002-2003 minus one standard deviation, as recommended by the Professional Standards Commission. Candidates will be held accountable for meeting or exceeding the Praxis II qualifying scores on assessments taken from **September 1, 2004 forward**.

III. Required Praxis II Assessments

Praxis II Assessment Code Numbers and Titles:

- 0700 Agriculture
- 0133 Art: Content Knowledge
- 0235 Biology: Content Knowledge
- 0100 Business Education
- 0245 Chemistry: Content Knowledge
- 0571 Earth Science: Content Knowledge
- 0910 Economics
- 0271 Education of Deaf & Hard of Hearing Students
- 0353 Education of Exceptional Students: Core Content Knowledge
- 0542 Education of Exceptional Students: Mild to Moderate
- 0021 Education of Young Children
- 0014 Elementary Education: Content Knowledge
- 0041 English Language, Literature, & Composition: Content Knowledge
- 0360 English to Speakers of Other Languages
- 0120 Family & Consumer Sciences
- 0840 Foreign Language Pedagogy
- 0173 French: Content Knowledge
- 0435 General Science: Content Knowledge
- 0920 Geography
- 0181 German: Content Knowledge
- 0930 Government/Political Science
- 0856 Health & Physical Education: Content Knowledge
- 0550 Health Education
- 0310 Library Media Specialist
- 0560 Marketing Education
- 0061 Mathematics: Content Knowledge
- 0112 Music Analysis
- 0113 Music: Content Knowledge
- 0091 Physical Education: Content Knowledge
- 0481 Physical Science
- 0265 Physics: Content Knowledge
- 0522 Principles of Learning & Teaching K-6
- 0523 Principles of Learning & Teaching 5-9
- 0390 Psychology
- 0300 Reading Specialist
- 0081 Social Studies: Content Knowledge
- 0950 Sociology
- 0191 Spanish: Content Knowledge
- 0690 Special Education: Preschool/Early Childhood
- 0220 Speech Communication
- 0280 Teaching Children w/ Visual Impairment
- 0360 English to Speakers of Other Languages
- 0050 Technology Education
- 0640 Theatre
- 0941 World & US History: Content Knowledge

IV. Idaho State Board of Education-Approved Praxis II Qualifying Scores

Idaho Certifications & Endorsement Areas*	Praxis II Code Number	Praxis II Title	Idaho Praxis II Qualifying Score
Agriculture Science & Technology 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0700	Agriculture	510
American Government; Political Science 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0930	Government/Political Science	610
Art 6-12/K-12 (Standard Elementary/Secondary)	0133	Art: Content Knowledge	155
Bilingual Education K-12; English as a New Language K-12 (Standard Elementary/Secondary)	0360	English to Speakers of Other Languages	580
Biological Science 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0235	Biology: Content Knowledge	139
Business Technology Education 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0100	Business Education	580
Chemistry 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0245	Chemistry: Content Knowledge	139
Communication (Speech) 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0220	Speech Communication	560
Communication-Drama (Standard Secondary)	0220 0640	<u>One</u> of the following: Speech Communication Theatre	560 540
Drama 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0640	Theatre	540
Early Childhood/Early Childhood Special Education Blended Certificate (Birth to Grade 3)	0021 0690	<u>Both</u> of the following: Education of Young Children Special Education: Preschool/Early Childhood	169 550
Earth & Space Science 6-12; Geology 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0571	Earth Science: Content Knowledge	144
Economics 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0910	Economics	460
Educational Media Generalist K-12 (Standard Elementary/Secondary)	0310	Library Media Specialist	620
Elementary K-8 (Standard Elementary)	0014 0522 0523	Elementary Education: Content Knowledge; <u>plus one</u> of the following: Principles of Learning & Teaching K-6 Principles of Learning & Teaching 5-9	143 161 162
English 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0041	English Language, Literature, & Composition: Content Knowledge	158
Family & Consumer Science 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0120	Family & Consumer Sciences	580
Foreign Language: French 6-12, K-12 (Standard Elementary/Secondary)	0173	French: Content Knowledge	157
Foreign Language: German 6-12, K-12 (Standard Elementary/Secondary)	0181	German: Content Knowledge	159
Foreign Language: Spanish 6-12, K-12	0191	Spanish: Content Knowledge	152
Foreign Languages, except French, German, and Spanish 6-12, K-12 (Standard Elementary/Secondary)	0840	Foreign Language Pedagogy	158
Generalist K-12 (Standard Exceptional Child)	0353 0542 0014	<u>All</u> of the following: Education of Exceptional Students: Core Content Knowledge Education of Exceptional Students: Mild to Moderate Elementary Education: Content Knowledge	156 168 143

Idaho Certifications & Endorsement Areas*	Praxis II Code Number	Praxis II Title	Idaho Praxis II Qualifying Score
Geography 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0920	Geography	600
Gifted and Talented 6-12, K-12 (Standard Elementary/Secondary)		No Praxis II for this area	
Health 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0550	Health Education	630
Hearing Impairment K-12 (Standard Exceptional Child)	0271	Both of the following: Education of Deaf & Hard of Hearing Students	162
	0353	Education of Exceptional Students: Core Content Knowledge	156
History 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0941	World & US History	141
Humanities 6-12 (Standard Secondary)		No Praxis II for this area	
Journalism 6-12 (Standard Secondary)		No Praxis II for this area	
Marketing Technology Education 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0560	Marketing Education	630
Mathematics/Basic Mathematics 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0061	Mathematics: Content Knowledge	119
Music 6-12, K-12 (Standard Elementary/ Secondary)	0112	Both of the following: Music Analysis	151
	0113	Music: Content Knowledge	148
Natural Science 6-12 (Standard Secondary)**	0435	General Science: Content Knowledge; plus one of the following:	149
	0235	Biology: Content Knowledge	139
	0245	Chemistry: Content Knowledge	139
	0265	Physics: Content Knowledge	129
	0571	Earth Science: Content Knowledge	144
Physical Education 6-12, K-12 (Standard Elementary/Secondary)	0091	Physical Education: Content Knowledge	143
Physical Education-Health 6-12 (Standard Elementary/Secondary)	0856	Health & Physical Education: Content Knowledge	147
Physical Science 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0481	Physical Science: Content Knowledge	145
Physics 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0265	Physics: Content Knowledge	129
Psychology 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0390	Psychology	600
Reading, K-12 (Standard Elementary/Secondary)	0300	Reading Specialist	480
Social Studies 6-12 (Standard Secondary)**	0081	Social Studies: Content Knowledge; plus one of the following:	150
	0910	Economics	460
	0920	Geography	600
	0930	Government/Political Science	610
	0950	Sociology	570
	0941	World and United States History: Content Knowledge	141
	0390	Psychology	600
Sociology 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0950	Sociology	570
Sociology/Anthropology 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0950	Sociology	570
Visually Impairment K-12 (Standard Exceptional Child)	0280	Both of the following: Teaching Children w/ Visual Impairment	660
	0353	Education of Exceptional Students: Core Content Knowledge	156
Technology Education 6-12 (Standard Secondary)	0050	Technology Education	590

* Some endorsement areas require more than one Praxis II assessment.

** If an individual already has an Idaho endorsement in a specific science/social studies area, he/she would only have to take either 0435: General Science: Content Knowledge or 0081: Social Studies: Content Knowledge.

V. Current Information/Guidelines

A. Institutional Recommendation

An institutional recommendation should include the following:

- The **name(s)** of the Praxis II assessment(s) taken by the candidate
- The **number(s)** of the Praxis II assessment(s) taken by the candidate
- The **date(s)** of Praxis II assessment(s) completion
- The **score(s)** of Praxis II assessment(s) completed

B. Praxis II Content Area Assessment

Since Praxis II content area assessment qualifying scores have been established by the State Board of Education, it is important to ensure that scores are accurately recorded for candidate certification and Title II reporting. The following is important:

- **Through August 30, 2004**, candidates were required **only** to take a Praxis II assessment in their major field(s) without being held accountable for meeting or exceeding the qualifying score. Candidates taking a State Board-approved Praxis II assessment **prior to September 1, 2004**, are **not** held accountable for meeting or exceeding the qualifying score.
- The intent is that a candidate be required to take a pertinent Praxis II assessment only once and not be required to take the same Praxis II assessment sometime in the future if certification application is delayed (i.e., a person who graduates in June 2004 but does not apply for certification for a year or more).
- **Beginning with Praxis II assessments taken September 1, 2004**, candidates are required to meet or exceed qualifying scores on the appropriate State Board-approved Praxis II assessments in order to be considered for Idaho certification.
- **Beginning September 1, 2004**, candidates will be required to take the appropriate Praxis II assessments for **all** certifications or endorsements they request.

C. Praxis II: Elementary Content Knowledge (0014) for Exceptional Child: Generalist Certificate

- **All Exceptional Child; Generalist candidates** are now required to take **Praxis II 0014: Elementary Content Knowledge** as well as **Praxis II: 0353 Education of Exceptional Students-Core Content Knowledge** and **Praxis II: 0542 Education of Exceptional Students-Mild to Moderate**.
- Requiring candidates to take the above Praxis II assessments meets the highly qualified teacher provisions of No Child Left Behind.

D. Praxis II: World and U.S. History Assessment (0941)

- **All** candidates seeking a history endorsement are required to take **Praxis II #0941**.
- Praxis II # 0940 was allowable **only through June 30, 2004**.
- **Praxis II 0941: World and U.S. History** is the **only** assessment accepted as of **September 1, 2004**.

E. Praxis II Registration and Test Fees

- It is the responsibility of the candidate to register through ETS for the appropriate Praxis II assessment(s) required by the State Board of Education.
- Please refer to the ETS website for information on registration and test fees: www.ets.org

VI. Other Praxis II Requirements for Teachers Requesting Idaho Certification/Certification Renewal

A. Out-of-State Teachers

As of **September 1, 2004**, all out-of-state teachers seeking Idaho certification are required to meet or exceed Idaho's Praxis II qualifying scores for the content area(s) in which they will be certified or endorsed.

B. Foreign-Trained Teachers

As of **September 1, 2004**, all foreign-trained teachers seeking Idaho certification are required to meet or exceed Idaho's Praxis II qualifying scores for the content area(s) in which they will be certified or endorsed.

C. Reinstatement of Idaho Certification

As of **September 1, 2004**, all teachers seeking to reinstate their Idaho certification are required to meet or exceed Idaho's Praxis II qualifying scores for the content area(s) in which they will be certified or endorsed.

D. Additional Teaching Endorsement/Certification

As of **September 1, 2004**, all Idaho certified teachers seeking an **additional** endorsement or certification are required to meet or exceed Idaho's Praxis II qualifying scores for the **additional** certification or endorsement.

E. Renewal of Idaho Teaching Certification

All teachers currently holding a valid Idaho certification who need to renew their certification **do not** have to take Praxis II in their current endorsement and/or certification area(s).

VII. Web Site Sources

- Idaho State Department of Education (SDE): www.sde.state.id.us/dept
- Bureau of Certification and Professional Standards (SDE): www.sde.state.id.us/certification
- Education Testing Service: www.ets.org/praxis
- Idaho's Education Employment Website: www.idahoeducationjobs.com
- Idaho State Board of Education: www.idahoboardofed.org